

# Winning the Fight In Westport



© L. HOWLAND JR.

Beginning in 1981 with the protection of the Howland property and its scenic farmland on the East Branch of the Westport River (shown above), The Trustees has worked with many landowners to protect Westport's critical landscapes.

**T**he Black Angus cattle that dot the rolling hills of River Rock Farm can't tell, but there's something different in the grass this spring. It's the taste of preservation, and it's taking root throughout the coastal town of Westport. Farm by farm, view by view, a new partnership is making strides in the battle against unchecked growth.

For more than two decades, The Trustees has worked with the Westport Land Conservation Trust (WLCT) to preserve this landscape. Now, thanks to dedicated residents and renewed cooperation, the effort represents one of our great conservation success stories. In the past few years, the Westport Land Conservation Partnership has protected more than 800 acres—including those of River Rock Farm—raised millions of dollars, and increased local membership in the two organizations by 400 percent. Paul Schmid, a farm owner and chair of the partnership's fundraising committee, puts it this way: "We realized that our town won't remain as it is without someone doing something. And we asked ourselves—if not us, who? If not now, when?"

To conserve a town's agricultural landscape before it is lost to unplanned growth, The Trustees and the Westport Land Conservation Trust have joined together to inspire landowners, private donors, and public agencies to increase the pace of conservation in Westport.

What makes this special place worth the fuss? One of the last surviving coastal farming towns in the Commonwealth, Westport is located between the cities of Fall River and New Bedford on Buzzards Bay. It is defined by its farms, its working landscape, and the two branches of the Westport River, whose estuaries reach nearly five miles north. But it's also located in one of the state's fastest-growing regions. Even as spring blossoms soften the landscape, a threat looms: suburban sprawl. A state planning agency has projected that 200,000 people will move to the region in the next twenty years. The threat is particularly dire, since only 10 percent of the town is permanently preserved—much less than in neighboring Dartmouth (25 percent) and Fall River (50 percent).

Tangible evidence of this threat is visible, as field after field produces its final crop—housing. And there's more at stake than land. As third-generation Westport dairy farmer Karl Santos says, "If we can't protect our farms, we're going to lose a way of life that's been here as long as the town itself."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



# KENDALL'S CORNER

## Discovering the Land That's Left

Right about now, the Sippican River teems with herring. The fish are making their way to spawn in a Rochester pond, and their route through this southeastern Massachusetts town takes them along the edge of Eastover Farm—a property that was nearly sold to developers last year. This spring, thanks to an agreement between several groups led by The Trustees, the farm is safe, and so are the herring. As we work to finalize the purchase of our newest property, their vital annual ritual goes on undisturbed. Recently, I had the chance to explore some of Eastover's nearly 800 acres, a major portion of which we hope to open to the public soon. In addition to historic buildings and lush fields, the property contains cranberry bogs and blueberry patches, mature woodlands, ponds, and patches of Atlantic white cedar swamp. As I walked, I found myself thinking how lucky we are to have such stunning landscapes in our state—and how much work remains.

During this season of discovery and renewal, I hope you'll find a moment, and a special place, to consider these notions. Now that the cobwebs of winter are cleared away, find some sunny day to visit a Trustees property. Maybe you'll choose a pond in your town you've overlooked lately; travel across the state just to get to a forest you've been curious about; or explore one of our newest properties: the rolling meadows of Francis William Bird Park in Walpole, or the white pine-oak forest of Fall River's Copicut Woods.

While we're delighted that, with your help, these and the rest of our 23,265 acres are safely bursting into bloom this spring, we don't consider our work to be anywhere near done. The cover story about our partnership

with the Westport Land Conservation Trust in Buzzards Bay offers just one example of the threatened landscapes in our state, and the resources, cooperation, and passion needed to protect them.

This work continues year-round, not just when the land feels welcoming and warm. We are continually scouting out new properties, helping to ensure their protection, and opening them for the public to enjoy. Jim Freeborn, superintendent of our Shore South properties, notes in this issue the surprise many have expressed to him when they learn about the thousands of acres of protected open space in the state. Less time in the car, they reason, means more time to hike, ride bikes, take a nature walk, or paddle a canoe.

Indeed, we hope you'll get out and enjoy the sights, sounds, and smells of spring on our properties this season. But, more than that, we hope you'll consider the acres not yet protected. Consider the concerns discussed in the Public Issues column, about the limits on state funding for resource protection. Consider the cedar swamps and island shrublands, the vernal pools and herring runs. Let's work together this year, so when next spring comes, we'll have even more special places to celebrate.

Andy Kendall  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Find out where to find spring by checking your *Property Guide* or visiting [www.thetrustees.org](http://www.thetrustees.org).



Since 1891, The Trustees of Reservations has been saving the Massachusetts landscape for people to enjoy. From the mountains of the Berkshires to the beaches of Cape Cod and the Islands, our conservation work has helped protect more than 52,000 acres. We care for 23,265 acres on 94 reservations that are open to the public and we inspire the next generation of conservationists through our educational programs. We are a nonprofit organization supported by our 42,000 members.

For information about becoming a member or to request a change of address, please contact the Membership Office at 978/921-1944, email us at [membership@ttor.org](mailto:membership@ttor.org), or visit our website at [www.thetrustees.org](http://www.thetrustees.org).

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## Winning the Fight in Westport

CONTINUED FROM COVER

Incorporated in 1787, Westport has a rich farming history. As recently as the 1950s, it was still home to 75 dairy farms. While only 11 remain, they produce more milk than any other town in the Commonwealth. Along with the town's 19 other commercial farms—whose crops include apples, grapes, turnips, beef, Christmas trees, and nursery stock—they comprise more than 8,300 acres.

Sensing that this working landscape is increasingly at risk, the town is fiercely defensive of its farms and farmers: voters recently approved the creation of an agricultural commission, and an upcoming town meeting will consider a right-to-farm bylaw which would fend off nuisance lawsuits by abutting subdivisions.

In this atmosphere of concern, the partnership has found momentum, opening an office in town and hiring full-time land protection professional Anthony Cucchi. WLCT also developed a five-year strategic plan, whose ambitious goals include a call to preserve 2,000 acres by 2007—at a projected cost of more than \$15,000,000. These goals were bold, considering that in 1999 the two organizations had fewer than 150 members in town, had collectively raised less than \$20,000 per year locally, and had never held a major capital campaign there.

Tom Boreiko and Alison Coolidge, The Trustees' 2003 Conservationists of the Year, kicked things off with a leadership gift and set up a matching challenge fund. "The most exciting aspect of the challenge fund is its ability to leverage conservation dollars quickly and efficiently, allowing us to protect what's important before it's too late," Boreiko says.

The ensuing campaign broadened private support, increasing the number of local members by 400 percent. The partnership also facilitated municipal support, including the

"There is a growing feeling that we can accomplish what we have set out to do, and then some...When supporters see the properties we are protecting, it speaks volumes for what their contributions can accomplish."

ANTHONY CUCCHI  
THE TRUSTEES' BUZZARDS BAY PROGRAM COORDINATOR



passage of a \$1,500,000 Agricultural Preservation Trust Fund bond and funds from the Community Preservation Act, which provides as much as \$250,000 per year, with the potential for state matching funds.

The partnership, says WLCT President Terry White, "is empowering both the WLCT and The Trustees to do more, and do it more quickly." By 2003, it had completed 12 projects totaling more than 800 acres, adding six farms to the list of those forever preserved. The \$1.1 million the partnership raised for preservation leveraged \$3.9 million from

state agencies and the Town of Westport, and \$4.5 million in bargain sales and gifts of land and conservation restrictions.

"There is a growing feeling that we can accomplish what we have set out to do, and then some," says Cucchi, The Trustees' Buzzards Bay Program Coordinator. "Our successes have broadened our support, which means more people are helping, whether they are giving us land, or money to conserve land. When supporters see the properties we're protecting, it speaks volumes for what their contributions can accomplish."

For more information on the Westport Land Conservation Partnership, contact Anthony Cucchi, Buzzards Bay Program Coordinator, at 508/636-7501 or acucchi@ttr.org. ■

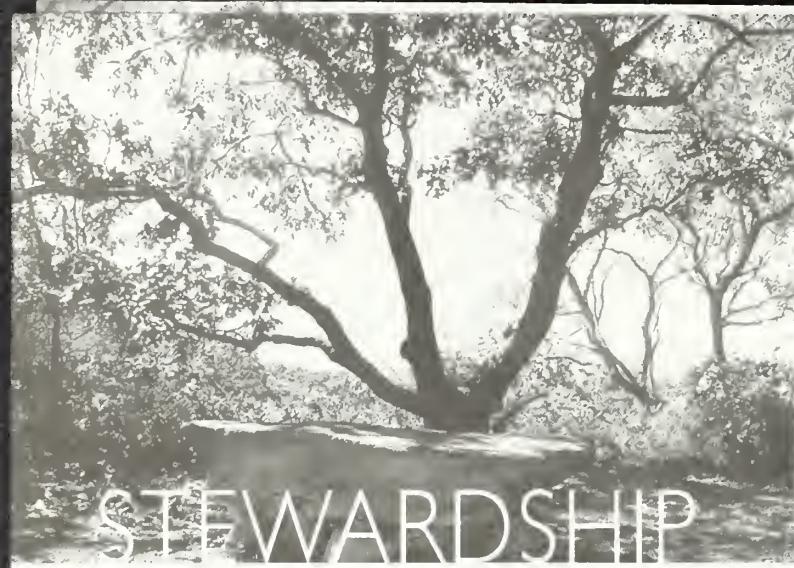
## SPRING appeal 2004

Spring is the time to get out and explore the best of the Massachusetts landscape. The Trustees of Reservations goes above and beyond to give you the best! Won't you help?

Your contribution above and beyond your membership dues will help us continue to create a memorable experience for one million visitors each year. From these visitors come the supporters who help us carry out our conservation work. Please consider a donation to our Spring Appeal.

Your help does make a difference. Thank you.

Donate on-line! Visit  
[www.thetrustees.org](http://www.thetrustees.org)



## STEWARDSHIP

### Of Wolf Trees and Fairy Shrimp

Visitors to Menemsha Hills Reservation find views unfurling across Vineyard Sound toward the Elizabeth Islands and the Gay Head lighthouse. They pass through ancient stone walls bordered by sinewy oaks called "wolf trees" (shown above). They stand at the edge of Martha's Vineyard's largest sand cliff, which drops sharply into the Sound, feeling the wind on their faces as they gaze at the shore and at the nearby chimney of the old brickyards.

A survey conducted last summer provided a sense of how visitors experience Menemsha Hills, and offered invaluable guidance to Trustees staff and volunteers who are creating a management plan for the property. Planning for the future requires understanding the past; Ebba Hierta, a graduate student at Oklahoma State University, has researched the area's history, from Native American use to extensive clearing for pasture in the 1800s. During that time, clay was mined for the brickyards and to make pigments for a paint mill. When grazing and clay mining stopped in the 1900s, pastures slowly grew thick with shrubs and trees again.

Remnant trees dating to the early 1800s offer evidence of forested areas within those windswept pastures of old, and are one of many natural resources The Trustees is studying. Songbirds such as the scarlet tanager call today's forests home. Box turtles emerge from underground hibernation in late spring to roam the woodlands. Rare moths live within the intricate shrublands in dry, sandy soils. Fairy shrimp float in a vernal pool ringed with buttonbush and other shrubs. And river otters travel down two intermittent streams that spring to life here.

Nestled between the rocky shores of the Sound and the stone walls of Chilmark, this landscape of cliffs, hills, shrublands, and forests is part of a unique island ecosystem. The management planning process underway exemplifies the commitment of volunteers and researchers to protect this very special place.

For more information about the management plan at Menemsha Hills, contact Islands Regional Ecologist Lloyd Raleigh at lraleigh@tton.org or call 508/693-7662 x11. ■

## OUTREACH

### Engaging the Next Generation of Conservationists

An age-old question at The Trustees—how do we get more young people, the people who represent the future of our organization and our State's conservation movement, involved in the important work of The Trustees? Well, we might just have the answer—*The Conservation Council!* *The Conservation Council* was established five years ago by a small group of dedicated volunteers bent on engaging the 20-, 30-, and 40-something individuals who wanted to make a difference in protecting the landscapes and landmarks of Massachusetts.

Today, the *Council* is over 250 members strong and continues to grow thanks to the tremendous interest from this next generation of Trustees supporters. Membership in the *Conservation Council* has its rewards...free admission to all of our reservations (94 and counting!) including Crane Beach; invitations to exclusive *Council*-sponsored events and other receptions and tours throughout the state; opportunities to volunteer and get involved; as well as some unique occasions to explore Trustees' properties in-depth.

Currently, you will find members of the *Conservation Council* among our Corporate Trustees (the voting body of our annual meeting), the Advisory Council, as well as the Board of Directors and its sub-committees. The *Conservation Council* itself has a steering committee that oversees membership recruitment, events and communications, and other leadership responsibilities.

With a contribution of \$200 for an individual or \$300 for a family, you can join the *Conservation Council* and take part in this opportunity to work to build the future of our organization. If you're already a member of The Trustees, you may apply your current membership dues to *Council* dues. By joining yourself, and/or getting others to do so, you will help support The Trustees' important mission of preserving, for public use and enjoyment, properties of exceptional scenic, historic, and ecological value in Massachusetts.

Contact Ina Drouin at 978/921-1944 x1857 or idrouin@tton.org to learn about the *Council*'s exciting plans for the coming year. ■

**conservation** | **council**  
PROTECTING SPECIAL PLACES | PLANTING NEW IDEAS



A Council outing on Misery Island.

# EDUCATION

## In Concord, Conflict is Healthy

The shot heard 'round the world still reverberates in Lexington and Concord, where conflict and resolution are woven into the town's very fabric. This summer, students and teachers from two eastern Massachusetts high schools are testing a pilot program devoted to these issues at The Old Manse in Concord. The property's rich role in the American Revolution and the 19th century literary and social revolution make it a tangible tool, enhanced by case studies of social and political conflict derived from the lives of Ralph Waldo Emerson, Bronson Alcott, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and others.

The new program, which complies with the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks, will include pre-visit materials, work plans for teachers, post-visit materials and exercises, and a transportation subsidy. Schools within a 50-mile radius will be invited to take part this fall, after the pilot participants from Gardner and Newton have offered their feedback. When the program's planned two-year run ends, a CD-ROM spin-off will make the course available to schools throughout the country.

Both the subsidy and the spin-off are made possible through a \$4,000 grant from the National Park Service Challenge Cost Share Program. The one-to-one matching grant is designed for National Historic Landmarks, and The Manse will partner with the Wayside at Minute Man National Historical Park, another landmark site. Education consultants Sheryl Peters and Nancy



CLOCKWISE Junior Volunteers of Concord Stephanie Aines, Oliver Wilder-Smith, Kendra Brown, consultant Nancy Joroff, and Abigail Fischer creating the education program on Conflict in Concord at the Old Manse.

Joroff—Old Manse Committee members who are providing their services pro bono—have designed the program with staff and volunteers from the Old Manse, along with Bob Derry of the Wayside, and teacher Corrie Milley (also a member of The Old Manse Committee). A portion is also being developed by the Junior Volunteers of Concord, a group of 20 students from 15 economically and culturally diverse communities in the Greater Boston area. The group operates in cooperation with The Trustees, SPNEA, the National Park Service, Walden Pond, Concord Museum, Orchard House, and Fruitlands Museums.

For more information please contact Historic Resources Director Susan Edwards at 978/921-1944x1896 or [sedwards@tton.org](mailto:sedwards@tton.org). ■

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS



It's half-past spring...  
do you know where  
your membership  
card is?

Spring is here and summer is on the way. Now's a great time to locate your Trustees of Reservations membership card. At most of our properties, the presentation of your membership card is the only way that we can verify your membership status and provide you with all of your benefits: free/discounted admission to reservations, discounts on programs, special events, Over-Sand Vehicle permits, and of course discounts on stays at Trustees B&Bs.

If you cannot locate your membership card and need a replacement, please contact our Member Services Office at 978/921-1944 or [membership@tton.org](mailto:membership@tton.org).

### CRANE BEACH MEMBER DISCOUNT CHANGE

In an effort to establish greater equity between our Individual and Family-level membership benefits, The Trustees will be making a change to the Individual-level member admission benefit at Crane Beach. Effective May 28, 2004, members who visit Crane Beach with an Individual-level membership and are accompanied by family members, guests, or friends will pay a \$10 fee. **PLEASE NOTE:** Individual-level members entering the beach by themselves will continue to enter for \$5 per visit. Crane Beach admission benefits for all other levels of membership remain unchanged (SEE BELOW).

Interested in upgrading your membership? Special pricing is available for a limited time. For details, please contact our Member Services Office at 978-921-1944 or [membership@tton.org](mailto:membership@tton.org).

### CRANE BEACH MEMBER ADMISSION BENEFITS

May 29, 2004 through September 12, 2004

#### Individual-level Membership

- Member alone / \$5 admission fee per vehicle
- Member accompanied by one or more guests / \$10 admission fee per vehicle

#### Family-level Membership

- \$5 admission fee per vehicle

#### Supporting-level Membership

- Admission is always FREE



◀ TOP LEFT What smart growth isn't. Keynote Speaker Parris Glendening shows an image of a huge highway expansion underway in northern Virginia—a costly result of sprawl that also serves to perpetuate it. He told the conference attendees, "When we do not make the move to better plan for growth, we, in effect, encourage sprawl. We take the businesses out of our downtowns, the beauty out of our buildings, and the hearts out of our communities."



◀ BOTTOM LEFT One of several exhibitors, Lynn Harper (SHOWN RIGHT), Habitat Protection Specialist with the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program in the Department of Fish & Game, shares information with conference attendees about the department's research on threatened and endangered species and how land trusts can help protect them

◀ BOTTOM RIGHT The conference offered 24 different workshops throughout the day. Robert O'Connor (STANDING), Director of Land & Forest Policy for the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, assists with a session titled "Partnering for Land & Water Conservation: Land Trusts & Water Suppliers."

# LAND CONSERVATION

## Annual Massachusetts Land Trust Conference

On March 13, 2004, The Trustees' new Putnam Conservation Institute (PCI) co-hosted the annual Massachusetts Land Trust Conference. For the past 15 years, the conference has been a source of inspiration, education, and networking for land trusts across the Commonwealth. The largest of its kind in the entire nation, this day-long affair is an opportunity for land trust staff, board members, attorneys, ecologists, agency staff, and others working to conserve land in Massachusetts, to hear and share new ideas. The highlight of the conference

for the 381 registrants was keynote speaker, Parris Glendening, former governor of Maryland renowned for his Smart Growth Initiative. Glendening spoke of combating suburban sprawl through redevelopment of unused buildings and land in densely-populated areas and investment of public dollars in conserving land for agriculture, ecological protection, and recreation.

For more information about "smart growth" go to [www.SmartGrowthAmerica.org..](http://www.SmartGrowthAmerica.org..) ■

## CLARIFICATION

In our Winter 2004 *Special Places* article on the Theodore Lyman Reserve, we referenced the state's creation of the Red Brook Wildlife Management Area as part of this partnership project. In fact, the Massachusetts Department of Fish and Game was a vital partner in the success of the project and their continued involvement in the planning and management of the property, particularly their expertise in fisheries management, is greatly appreciated. ■



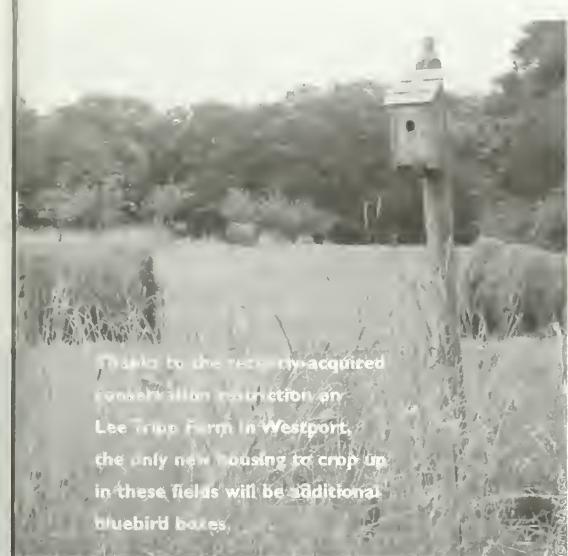
# PUBLIC ISSUES

## Conservation Restrictions Recorded

### LEE TRIPP FARM

WESTPORT — 55 ACRES

This 55-acre organic fruit and vegetable farm was preserved through the bargain sale of a conservation restriction, enabled in large part through private gifts and funds from the Town of Westport. Owner Lee Tripp generously donated over half the value. This is the latest success in the Allen's Neck Farm Preservation Project, a multi-year effort with the Westport Land Conservation Trust.



### RIVER ROCK FARM

WESTPORT

The Trustees' subsidiary, MLCT, pre-acquired an agricultural preservation restriction (APR) on a majority of 140-acre River Rock Farm; it will transfer the APR to the Commonwealth. The rest will be preserved through additional gifts. River Rock is one of the largest and most scenic farms on the East Branch of the Westport River, adjacent to three other restricted farms that preserve an additional 350 acres (SEE COVER STORY).

### FORMER SOUTHARD PROPERTY

WESTPORT — 31 ACRES

The Artemisia Realty Trust of Westport donated a conservation restriction to The Trustees on 31 acres, including about 2,200 feet of shoreline on the West Branch of the Westport River. The area includes the site of the William Macomber homestead of 1665, whose stone pier and barns survive; a salt marsh; pasture and forest; and a prominent ledge with a harbor view.

### THAYER FARM & BRYANT WOODS

CUMMINGTON — 150 ACRES

In January, the Massachusetts Land Conservation Trust (MLCT) purchased an agricultural preservation restriction (APR) on 150 acres of Cliff and Lorena Thayer's 170-acre sheep farm abutting the William Cullen Bryant Homestead. MLCT made the purchase at a bargain sale price, and assigned the APR to the Commonwealth. The Thayers also sold a 20-acre wooded parcel to The Trustees to buffer a remnant old-growth forest on the Bryant Homestead along the Rivulet Trail. ■



Bryant Woods, Cummington.

At press time, Governor Romney's Fiscal Year 2005 budget had just been released, proposing an overall increase for the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA) of 4 percent over 2004. This year's budget, however, represents substantial reductions from previous years. We are concerned that some items of importance to conservation have been greatly reduced or eliminated.

For example, the Riverways Program which runs "Adopt-a-Stream" will suffer another round of deep cuts and the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species line item will be eliminated. As a result, these small but essential programs will have to rely on taxpayer check-offs and other contributions. State conservation depends more on the capital budget than the general fund budget, so we are keeping a close eye on that front.

The Administration is formulating "smart growth" criteria, closely related to housing production, to guide capital expenditures in 2005, including money for land protection. While we understand the need to increase and diversify the housing stock, criteria that treat conservation as merely a byproduct of smart growth would severely limit critical seed money for projects in areas where resources are endangered, but sprawl is not an immediate issue. Please write to your state senator and representative and to Governor Romney (State House, Office of the Governor, Room 360, Boston, MA 02133) urging a broader commitment to conservation in 2005. ■

conservation count		ACREAGE PROTECTED
LAND OWNED	94 reservations	23,265
LAND UNDER CR	223 parcels	14,853
ASSISTS*	96 projects	14,807
(as of 3/31/04)		TOTAL 52,925

\*Assists include land protected with or for The Trustees' partners as well as lands owned in fee by MLCT. This total may decline from time to time when certain MLCT properties are re-categorized as Trustees' properties or CRs.

# REGIONAL



## NORTHEAST REGION

The Crane Beach management plan is nearly complete, thanks to the hard work and dedication of many volunteers and staff members.

Three devoted Crane Estate employees with a combined 150 years of service retired this winter: store managers Bill Cruikshank and Joan Walsh, and head lifeguard Ken Spellman. Thank you for all of your dedicated work!



Capital improvements at Appleton Farms include rebuilding the loafing shed to accommodate the dairy cows and creating public restrooms in the farmstead area. **Green Dogs** is coming to Appleton Farms! Green Dogs, which has been

running successfully at Rocky Woods, is a new permit system that will be put in place this year at the Grass Rides section of the farm to help maintain it as a dog-friendly place. The

Sharing the Trail program is free to members and follows the successful implementation of a similar program for horseback riders at the farm this past year.



Time to renew your Green Dogs permit at Rocky Woods! For more information please call 781/821-2977.

## SOUTHEAST REGION

Now is the time to renew your Green Dogs permit for **Rocky Woods**! This stewardship program is entering its third year of providing education and events for members and their canine friends. Permits are free to Trustees members at the Family level or above.

At **Weir River Farm** this winter, the Winter Wonders After-School Club and the popular February Vacation Program stimulated minds, bodies, and tastebuds through walks, games, and homemade snow ice cream. Thanks to our neighbors at the New England Friends Home for providing the indoor space for these programs.

©TTOR



▲ Islands educator Suzan Bellincampi took delivery of a 14-passenger bus for transporting Martha's Vineyard schoolchildren to our properties as part of the **Claire Saltonstall Educational Program**.

◀ Students from the South Shore Charter School explore Rocky Neck while examining the botany of World's End in Hingham.

# ROUNDUP

## CAPE COD & ISLANDS



At Long Point Wildlife Refuge in West Tisbury, The Trustees received approval from the local conservation commission and the state to construct a 1,000-foot boardwalk behind the primary dune which will link the summer parking lot with the trail system on the western side of the refuge.



The Chappaquiddick Management Plan, whose drafts brought more public comment and review than any previous island issue The Trustees has faced, was released this winter. It presents more than 70 recommended actions, from closing roadways in sensitive habitat to improving communications with the community.

## e-newsletters!

Stay in touch with The Trustees. Sign up for an e-newsletter at [www.thetrustees.org](http://www.thetrustees.org). Click on Events at the top of the page.



## CENTRAL REGION

Richard and Arlene Norman, members of the **Rock House** committee, were named Co-Citizens of the Year for 2003 by the Town of Warren. The Normans—dubbed a “prized asset” by the *Springfield Republican*—have volunteered on the committee since its inception.

With the help of the **Peaked Mountain** committee, we hosted the second successful Winter Carnival at the Miller Forest Tract in January. Roughly 100 people enjoyed guided snowshoe hikes, ice skating, and dogsled rides. An artist carved a 300-pound block of ice into two sculptures: a snowshoeing bear and a pair of snowshoes set atop The Trustees logo.

As the **Doyle Conservation Center**—the state-of-the-art green building in Leominster—nears completion, a group of Webelos from Acton (SHOWN BELOW) toured the building to learn about energy-saving technologies such as photovoltaic panels and geothermal heat pumps. The pack then took a stab at designing their own sustainable homes!



## WESTERN REGION

At **Naumkeag**, the Lenox Garden Club generously contributed \$10,000 to restore the South Lawn Pagoda to its original 1936 appearance and repair damage from a November windstorm. Gordon Clark, Superintendent of the Stockbridge Management Unit, stated, “The generous, continued support of the Lenox Garden Club makes it possible for The Trustees to maintain Naumkeag in a way that would make Mabel Choate and Fletcher Steele proud.” The gardens were recently featured in England’s *Historic Gardens Review*, *House and Garden*, the *London Daily Telegraph*, and *Landscape Architecture*. The fences around the gardens were researched and re-created using 2,000 cedar pickets (SHOWN ABOVE).

This spring, we are bringing hands-on history programs to school children, including “Mumbet’s World: Life in 18th Century Massachusetts” to schools in Lenox and Pittsfield. “Mohicans: Yesterday and Today,” will bring Stockbridge’s history alive for local students. They will visit the **Mission House** to see demonstrations of 18th-century cooking, clothing, housing, and learn from a council member of the Stockbridge-Munsee Band of the Mohican Nation about the tribe’s life today in Wisconsin.

# SPECIAL PIECES

## Let There be Light

When John Gardner Coolidge held a diplomatic post in Peking from 1902-1906,

he lived in a home fully furnished in the local taste. A photograph in the Stevens-Coolidge Place archives (SHOWN RIGHT) provides us with a glimpse of his dining room there, whose appointments include a prominent lantern. After four years of conservation treatment, that late 19th-century Chinese lantern once again sheds light in the stairhall of the Stevens-Coolidge Place in North Andover.

The conservation of this large and elegant lantern, which features an ebonized wood frame with hand-painted silk panels, took place at the Textile Conservation Center and privately owned Windsor Conservation. The painstaking work involved disassembling the lantern and treating the fragile panels, some of which had been torn. The panels required cleaning, humidification, and new fabric

supports. Japanese conservation specialists were consulted on the most appropriate material for the latter; in the end, rice paper was chosen. Subsequent treatment was needed on the six frames and reproductions were created for two missing ornamental feet. Now hung proudly in place, the lantern brings color, light, and drama back to the hall.

During his time in China, which was prior to his marriage to Helen Stevens, Mr. Coolidge amassed an outstanding collection of Chinese ceramics as well as other decorative arts. Some of these objects are still in our collection and can be seen at the Stevens-Coolidge Place, while a number of his best Asian ceramics were donated to the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Please come visit us beginning in May, and enjoy stepping back in time to tour the Coolidges' wonderful summer home—complete with its original collections—and stroll through the elegant gardens. ■



THE STEVENS-COOLIDGE PLACE

## French Garden Fête

SUNDAY JUNE 13 2004

4PM to 6PM

LECTURE BEGINS 4PM ~ RECEPTION BEGINS 5PM  
RAIN DATE JUNE 20 2004

Join us for the official opening celebration of our latest garden rehabilitation project, the Coolidge's "French Garden," a 57-bed garden of flowers, herbs and vegetables.

Enjoy a lecture, outdoor refreshments, and stroll the enchanting gardens.

LECTURE & RECEPTION: MEMBERS \$15. NONMEMBERS \$20.  
RESERVATIONS FOR THE LECTURE ARE NECESSARY.

RECEPTION ONLY, PAY AT THE DOOR:  
MEMBERS \$5. NONMEMBERS \$10.

INFORMATION & RESERVATIONS: 978.682.3580  
[WWW.THETRUSTEES.ORG](http://WWW.THETRUSTEES.ORG)

# PARTNERSHIPS

## South Shore Joins Forces with Eastern Mountain Sports

What do a kayak tour, a senior walking club, and a Global Positioning System (GPS) course have in common? All three are results of the partnership between The Trustees and outdoor retailer Eastern Mountain Sports. While the Hingham store has been working with The Trustees for two years, this season brings a new crop of programs. South Shore Management Unit Superintendent Jim Freeborn hopes these successes will inspire similar endeavors elsewhere: "Perhaps we are developing a model that can be used on other properties across the state," he says.

Citing the overlap of interests between Trustees members and Eastern Mountain Sports (EMS) customers, Freeborn explains that the relationship benefits both partners: it develops community connections; helps The Trustees enhance its programming with loans of equipment and instructors; and exposes EMS customers to the quality and diversity of open space close to home.

This year, The Trustees will be part of the EMS Kayak Demo Day in June, with the lush green drumlins of the World's End Reservation as the backdrop, and the store's spring and fall Club Days, when

members of outdoor organizations get discounts while the organizations have a chance to promote their properties and programs. The partnership has also created a Senior Walking Club that meets weekly from spring through fall for a World's End walk guided by Trustees and EMS staff members; introductory courses in snowshoeing (at Turkey Hill) and GPS navigation (this spring and summer at Whitney and Thayer Woods); and a kayaking tour of World's End this summer.

"People are excited when they realize they don't have to drive to New Hampshire or Maine for a fulfilling outdoor experience", Freeborn notes. Properties like the 830-acre Whitney and Thayer Woods or the 250-acre World's End Reservation, he says, "can satisfy their need to get out and enjoy a large piece of undeveloped land."

The first EMS GPS course held at Whitney & Thayer Woods in Hingham was a huge success. That's certainly a course going in the right direction! Call 781/740-4796 for more information.





## SPECIES PROFILE

### Sweet Bay Magnolia

It's been nearly 200 years since sweet bay magnolia was first documented in the wetland area that became Gloucester's Ravenswood Park—and just under 100 since it was nearly decimated. The plant's creamy white petals and sweet fragrance proved too much to resist for collectors, who tromped through the swamp, broke branches, and picked flowers. By 1913, only two small plants had escaped the hunters of *Magnolia virginiana*. Thanks to the park's trustees, the stand bounced back. But today, it faces a different sort of peril.

The threats to Ravenswood's magnolias—the last significant stand in Massachusetts and the only one north of Long Island—take the form of deer, red maple, and birch. The former consider the plant a sweet treat, causing severe damage by browsing. And the trees' canopy provides deadly shade. Recent surveys show that the magnolias are in rapid decline and, without proper management, will likely be extirpated in 10-15 years. In response, The Trustees, which has managed the property since 1993, has enclosed the main stand with a plastic deer fence and is judiciously thinning the high canopy to increase light around individual magnolias—in most instances, removing one or two of the surrounding trees.

This management plan is in line with a park stewardship plan written in 1988, which identified overshading as the magnolia's main threat and recommended thinning every 10-15 years (in fact, 30 years have passed since the last significant thinning). It's also similar to our work at the Medfield Rhododendrons Reservation, where we are hoping to see a similar recovery in another native plant population through fencing and thinning. With continued monitoring of the population at Ravenswood, The Trustees expects success here. We hope that a century from now, the spring air will still fill with the scent of those magnificent magnolias. ■

Cape Ann Management Unit's Joe Christian and Nathan Mineo secure the final section of deer fencing, completing the 2,000-foot circumference enclosure around Ravenswood's sweet bay magnolia population.

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## OUT & ABOUT

### Tully Campground in Royalston



So you say you want it all: a place where you can hike, canoe, mountain bike, swim—and maybe even relax in between? Look no further than

Royalston's Tully Lake Campground. Nestled on the lake's forested shore, it offers access to miles of trails, views of quiet waters, and a perfect place to while away those lazy days of summer.

The 35 walk-in, tents-only sites make a great place for beginners to learn camping skills, or for old hands to take it easy. But even the pros will find something to learn here; for the second year, campers can take part in a wide variety of programs led by local naturalists, historians, and outdoor enthusiasts eager to share their knowledge and love of the area.

Should you decide to explore the waterfalls and ridgeline views of the 18-mile Tully Trail loop, you'll find the trailhead right at the campground. And bring your backpack so you can take advantage of the new Falls Brook Shelter, near the trail's halfway point. Built

last year by Trustees staff and volunteers on Royalston Falls Reservation, this rustic Adirondack-style structure provides a wonderful place to stay.

Tully Lake Campground is open daily from May 28-September 6 this year, and on the weekends through October 11. To make reservations, call 978/249-4957 (in-season) or 978/248-9455 (off-season). For more information, visit [www.tullylakecampground.org](http://www.tullylakecampground.org), where you can sign up to receive updates about events, programs, and important dates—like the first day to make reservations for your return trip in 2005!

#### HOW TO GET THERE

From Rte. 2, take Exit 18 and turn left onto Route 2A toward Athol. From the intersection of Routes 2A and 32 north in Athol, cross the Miller's River Bridge and bear left following the signs on Route 32 north. Proceed about 4 miles, passing the Tully Dam, then take a right onto Doane Hill Road. Proceed for a mile. The Tully Lake Campground is on the right. ■

